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12-13-1877

Providence Independent, V. 3, Thursday, December 13, 1877, [Whole Number: 130]

Providence Independent

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Recommended Citation

Independent, Providence, "Providence Independent, V. 3, Thursday, December 13, 1877, [Whole Number: 130]" (1877). *Providence Independent Newspaper, 1875-1898*. 76.
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PROVIDENCE INDEPENDENT.

INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS—NEUTRAL IN NOTHING.

VOL. 3.

TRAPPE, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1877.

WHOLE NUMBER, 130.

Two.

High on the hills Heron he dwells;
Rosalind sings on the moor below,
Watching the bees in the heather-bells
Merrily swinging to and fro.

Young Lord Heron has left his state,
Donned a doublet of hidden gray,
Stolen out of the postern gate,
A silly shepherd to wander away!

Rosalind keeps the heart of a child;
Gentle and tender and pure is she.
John the shepherd, is comely and mild,
Tending his flock by valley or lea.

Never a swain has whispered before
What she heard at the close of day;
"Rose of roses, I love the more
More than the sweetest words can say."

"Though I seem but a shepherd lad,
Down from a stately race I came;
In silks and in jewels I'll have thee clad,
And Lady of Heron shall be thy name."

Rosalind blushed a rosy red,
Turned as white as the Hawthorn bud;
Folded her kirtle over her head,
And sped away like a startled doe.

"Rose of roses, come back to me,
Leave me never!" Lord Heron cried:
"Never!" echoed from hill and lea:
"Never!" the lonely cliffs replied.

Loudly he mourned for a year and a day;
But Lady Alice was fair to see,
The bright sun blessed their bridal day,
And the castle bells ring merrily.

Over the moors, like a rolling knell,
Rosalind hears them slowly peal;
Low she moans: "I loved him well,
Better I loved his mortal weal."

"Rest, Lord Heron, in Alice's arms;
She is a lady of high degree;
Rosalind hath but her pleasant charms;
Ye have loved the day ye wedded me."

Lord Heron he dwells in his castle high;
Rosalind sleeps on the moor below;
He loved to live, she loved to die;
Which loved truest the angels know.
—Rose Terry Cook.

The Edict of Fate.

The library in Mr. Trevelyan's elegant country residences was one of the pleasantest apartments imaginable, and on that bright summer morning seemed the embodiment of coolness, shade, and fragrance—from the dark green carpet that covered the floor like a sheet of emerald velvet, the lighter green silk curtains and damask furniture, to the gleaming marble statues, the white and gold calf-bound volumes in rows of shelves from floor to ceiling.

Outside the sun shone and the birds were holding a perfect carnival of song in the warm, fragrant air.

Everything seemed so pure, so peaceful, so strangely at variance with Mr. Trevelyan's angry, clouded face as he stood, straight and haughty, with one hand on the green cloth of the central table, and his eyes looking down on Raymond Santelle's face—a face perfect in its bold, manly outlines.

"It is the most outrageous breach of gentlemanly honor I ever had the misfortune to know, and I am the more astonished, Mr. Santelle, that I had always, previously, held you to be a suitable man to occupy the position of tutor to my sons. But this total disregard of every law of etiquette, honor, decency—if I may be allowed so strong an expression—this open-faced, presumptuous attempt at flirtation with a guest of Mrs. Trevelyan's, is—offensively disgusting to me."

The young man's eyes blazed as he listened patiently to the quiet, intense insult, and you could see how tremendous was the force with which he kept himself in check—you saw it so plainly by the tenseness of every muscle in his lithe, handsome frame, by the compression of his lips under his drooping amber moustache, and in the intense, frightfully calm tones of his voice as he answered, with his blue eyes never flinching from the cold, gray ones opposite him.

"You have made a most unwarrantable assertion, sir, which for Miss Veldt's sake I regret—which for my own I care as little as I regard the truthfulness of it, as—"

Mr. Trevelyan interrupted him by a sudden blow of his fist on the table.

"You dare tell me—you, a hired teacher in this house, that I am a liar—that Miss—"

Santelle did not make the smallest attempt to interrupt the tide of passion, but there was something in his eyes that made the gentleman pause suddenly, and then Santelle went on, with that unnatural quiet that precedes terrible tempests.

"There is no occasion to introduce the lady's name again; I simply say I have never paid her any attention beyond what is due to a lady from a gentleman; that I should pay an empress of the blood royal if the occasion required it, or any other woman. You have seen fit to misconstrue, and from the moment you branded me as unfit

for the position of tutor to your sons, however false the accusation was you ceased to be my employer. Mr. Trevelyan, there is no need to prolong this interview."

He bowed with the cold, polished ease of a society-bred man, and went leisurely from the library to his room, with that same compression of his handsome lips, but with the fire in his blue eyes giving place to a bitter, dreary woe.

"To think she is the first woman I ever met who could quicken my pulses by a glance of her bright, beautiful eyes—and I am insulted because I dare converse with her—I, a tutor on a salary, she a darling of fate and fortune!"

Down in the library where Santelle had left him, Mr. Trevelyan paced to and fro.

"The insolent, independent puppy, with his face like a god's, and his manner the manner of a prince! It is time he took his conge from Trevelyan Park when he bids fair to be a formidable rival to my son Rupert in Ida Veldt's favor. I am not blind—I am not a fool; I have seen the girl's magnificent eyes look at him with a light in them I'd willingly give a check for a thousand and to see in them when she laughs with my boy."

And just within one of the deep, dusk recesses of the library, hidden by flowing silken drapery, as fair a girl as ever lived, with lustrous dark eyes all aglow, and cheeks as pink as a morning glory, stood quiet and breathless until Mr. Trevelyan had left the room.

"The grand, glorious fellow; why, he's a very prince in disguise! I wonder—I wonder if—oh, dear, of course it is only chivalrous courtesy Mr. Santelle feels, and I won't be a fool if he has got the most heavenly smile and the handsomest eyes I ever saw, but I'll see him again before he leaves, and—"

But Ida Veldt did not see him again before he left Trevelyan Park, for Mr. Santelle did not remain over one train and when Ida returned from her gallop over the breezy country roads, with her cheeks glowing, her hair wind-blown over her face, like a mist of spun gold, and her bronze, dark eyes eloquent with the strange, half sweet, half sad thoughts she could not understand, Raymond Santelle was separated from her, by fate and the railroad, so many miles that ever to meet again seemed of even less likely probability than the finding of a needle in a haystack.

"But, Raymond, there is no use in your being so obstinate about it! You have fever, and your eyes are as glassy as a cat's in a dark cellar—aren't they, Mrs. Santelle?"

Harry Livingston reached out to take Raymond Santelle's hand to feel the throbbing, irregular pulse.

"Don't be a fool, Harry! I tell you I am not sick—at least beyond a trifling cold—although I won't be responsible for an attack of brain fever if you and Aunt Amy don't quit coddling me."

"You see how it is, Mr. Livingston. I can't do anything with him. He's been just that contrary ever since he came home the other night with a chill, and I coaxed him to take hot lemonade."

The little bright-eyed old lady looked anxiously from her boy's flushed face to Livingston's half-earnest, half-mischievous one.

"He always was headstrong, you know. Don't you remember how disagreeably mulish he was when he came home from Trevelyan Park a couple of years ago, and refused to go into society at all, even when he had come into the snug little legacy his grandmother left him?"

Santelle turned frowningly to Livingston.

"If you knew how it annoyed me to hear you talk—"

Harry arose promptly, laughing. "All right, I'll call again when you are in a better humor, Ray. Mrs. Santelle, you promised to show me your pelargoniums, I think?"

The conservatory door had barely closed on their heels when Livingston's levity vanished.

"Mrs. Santelle, Ray is a much sicker man than you have any idea of! Can't you see the terrible state of irritation he has come to? Crossness and Raymond are not possible, as you know, and if you will take my advice and send for a doctor you may save him a sickness, perhaps his life. Send for Dr. Tremaine or Dr. Winter, and tell whichever one takes the case what you and I have so often imagined—that Ray has some trouble on his mind."

Little Mrs. Santelle was in a condition of the almost helpless alarm after Mr. Livingston had gone.

It had never occurred to her that Ray was threatened with anything worse than an influenza, and Harry Livingston was actually hinting at the brain trouble!

She flew back to Ray's dainty little sitting-room—things had changed so with Ray since he had come in for five thousand a year—determined to tell him a doctor must be sent for and to ask him who he wanted.

She went in, in nervous alarm, to find him lying, white and still, on the lounge.

In the panic that emergencies always are sure to create in nervous, loving people, Mrs. Santelle breathlessly ordered her one-servant-maid for her physician.

"Run—run to Dr. Winter's, Annie, as fast as you can, and tell him Mr. Santelle is dying. If he's not in, go for Tremaine—Hear anybody—only some one must come at once! Hurry, Annie!"

And faithful, zealous Anne tore wildly round to find Dr. Winter out, Dr. Tremaine out, and Dr. Hoar out.

"What be I goin' to do about it and him a layin' as white as the pillar, and the missus crazy? I don't know, Ma'am, can you tell me where there'll be another doctor?"

It was a sweet, thoughtful face Anne had seen, and stopped to question the owner of—a daintily dressed lady, with the darkest, saddest eyes Anne had ever seen.

She smiled brightly. "Can I be of any use? If you are in search of a physician, and can find none you are looking for, you can take me; I know something of medicine."

Anne's eyes were a sight to behold. Always big, greenish blue, and bulging they grew bigger, more greenish blue, and more bulging.

"You, miss? The likes of you beable to cure him?"

The lady had stepped into her phaeton beside a spruce-looking boy.

"Shall I go, or not?"

Anne gave her a despairing look.

"It's a man sick, miss—you'd not care, nor be afraid—up at Eglantine place."

A silvery laugh from the charming little rosy-mouthed boy gave the order—Eglantine place.

"Neither afraid nor ashamed, I'll see what I can do for your master."

She nodded pleasantly, and the phaeton and phaeton dashed off.

And so it was ordered by the powers that be that when this charming, beautiful lady saw Raymond Santelle raving in delirium, and made such a common-sense diagnosis of the case, and gave such practical advice to be followed till Mrs. Santelle's physician should arrive to take charge, in a glow of enthusiasm Mrs. Santelle begged her to call and see the sick man occasionally.

With very unwarranted, uncalled-for blushes the lady agreed to do so, and as day after day the phaeton—"Ide" she said she was—stood for an hour at the door of No. —Eglantine place, Mrs. Santelle and she were fighting with Azrael for Raymond's sake, until one day Aunt Amy caught the girl in her arms and kissed her ardently.

"To think you have saved, under God's goodness! Miss Ide, can I ever thank you enough? If you only knew how I love you—and will my boy when he knows how much he owes you."

Consciousness had returned to the sick man, and Amy had told him, as soon as she dared of Ide—her sweet tender skill, her devotion, her brave, relentless war with his illness, her patience, her pity, until Raymond, with a smile on his pale, handsome face, asked why Ide had not been to see him since his convalescence.

Amy told him Ide had assured her that her presence might disturb the patient at first, but that she would see him before long.

After the first rally Raymond went on toward health and strength with rapid strides, until even Ide, with glowing cheeks and strangely-lighted eyes declared her intention of seeking him again, and one lovely afternoon Mrs. Santelle showed her into the dainty invalid chamber, little thinking the accomplishment of an unwritten romance had come, little thinking—

Well, Raymond reached out his hand, and the girl took it, with a strange shyness very unusual in her ordinary manner.

"I am glad to see you looking better, Mr. Santelle."

"Ide! Miss Veldt! Is it possible? Oh can it be true? Miss Veldt, do you know in my delirium I constantly thought you were with me? And you were—you were?"

She smiled, then frowned demurely, with her pretty fingers on his wrist.

"I can not permit you to become excited, Mr. Santelle. Yes, I, Ide Veldt, who abbreviated my name on the im-

pulse of the moment, when I saw who my patient was, because I—"

His face was flushed up with perfect joy.

"Because what, Miss Veldt?"

There was a pleading look in her eyes as she looked into his. He closed both of her hands over one of hers.

"And I, as your lover, forbid you to refuse to answer any question I ask! Ide—Ide, was it because you loved me? Tell me it was, my darling!"

And we presume she did, since never were patient and physician on such affectionately intimate terms as were Miss Veldt and Raymond Santelle after that, in the halcyon days when they too agreed that over the story of their lives had been written from time immemorial, the word "Kismet."

Did he Tell a Lie?

A good story is told of a ship owner of Liverpool which will bear repeating. Our merchant was a Quaker, and prided himself on his honesty. He would not have told a downright falsehood to save the value of his best ships. Jacob Penn was his name.

Once upon a time Friend Jacob suffered one of his ships to set sail from Calcutta for home without any insurance upon either vessel or cargo. At length he became uneasy. He was confident his ship had encountered bad weather, and he feared her safety. In this state he went to his friend Isaac.

"Friend Isaac," he said, "I would like for thee to insure my ship which is at sea. I should have none it before, but have carelessly neglected it. If thee canst have the policy signed already for delivery, at three o'clock on the afternoon of to-morrow, I will send and get it, and send thee the money in full."

Isaac did not seem to be anxious to insure the ship, but upon being assured that no unfavorable intelligence had been heard from her he said he would have the policy made out, to take effect on and after the following day, but to cover the ship and cargo from the day of her leaving India.

Early on the following morning Jacob received a message, by the hand of a captain just arrived, to the effect that his ship was stranded and his cargo lost. This was very unfortunate. Should Friend Isaac happen to hear the news before the policy was made out, he would not make it out at all, or if it was made, and not signed, he would not sign it.

What should he do? He wanted to act honestly. It would not be right to let Isaac go on and make out that policy under such circumstances. Finally he hit upon a plan. He summoned his confidential clerk, and sent him with his message:

"Tell Friend Isaac," he said, "that I have heard from my ship, and if the policy is not signed he need not sign it at all."

The clock was close upon the stroke of three when the clerk arrived. Friend Jacob's message was delivered. The ship had been heard from, and if the policy was not yet signed he need not sign it.

"I think I am in season to save it," the clerk said. "No, sir," answered Isaac, promptly and emphatically. Now in truth the policy of insurance had not been signed, for the instr had been dubious; but when he heard the message he judged at once that the ship was safe, and that Jacob sought to save the heavy item of the premium he had agreed to pay.

"No, sir," he said, "you are not in time. It is past three o'clock. The policy is signed. I will go and get it."

He slipped out and hastily finished and signed the policy, and having dried the ink he brought it to the clerk, demanding in return the sum which had been agreed upon. The money was paid and the policy was taken home to uncle Jacob, who received it gladly.

The end we can readily imagine; and it is not difficult to judge which of the two felt most sore over the matter.

A Mistake.

Mistakes will happen in the best of families.

A person with a basket full of his arm stepped into one of our shops and asked the man:

"What is the price of spring chickens?"

"Three shillings for good ones."

"Do you know, my fine fellow, that you made a mistake, this morning, when I was trading with you?"

"A mistake?"

"Yes, sir; a very serious mistake."

"Why, I don't remember what it was."

"A mistake, sir, that your employer would not tolerate for a moment."

"Well, sir, what was it?"

"A mistake sir, that would be considerable, if it had happened to any other man; but, sir, I have always made it a

rule to correct mistakes, even if they are in my favor."

"For goodness sake what is the matter?"

"I have been put to considerable trouble to rectify it; labor that I am called upon to perform as a duty under the principle that 'Honesty is the best policy,' and I hope that you will take a lesson from this event, and not repeat it in the future."

"What is the mistake?"

"You know I purchased, this morning, one dozen eggs."

"Yes."

"For which I paid you one shilling?"

"Yes."

"Well, sir, when I arrived home I discovered that you had made a mistake."

"Well, what was it?"

"Instead of a dozen eggs you had put up a dozen of spring chickens" (uncovering the basket, and showing a dozen broken eggs in various stages of development), "and as the price of spring chickens is 3s. and eggs only one penny, it makes a clean difference of 2s. 11d. each; and not wishing to wrong you or your employer, nor having any desire to go into the poultry business, I have brought them back, and will gladly change them for eggs, as I consider it only a mistake on your part."

The man took the basket and emptied the contents into the street, put in a dozen eggs, and handed the customer a shilling. The man winked out of the right eye:

"Don't say anything about this."

Customer winked out of his left eye.

"O, that's all right. (Exit)."

Infantry of the French Army.

The field exercise instructions of the French infantry have recently been completed by the issue of the *Ecole de Brigade*, a small book of only 36 pages, containing, as the name implies, the regulations for the movements and maneuvering of a brigade. A division of infantry in the French army consists of two brigades, each of two regiments; and each of these latter again placing three battalions of about 1000 men each in the field. The average length of front to be occupied by such a division in the line of battle is fixed at 1500 metres, giving about eight or ten men to every metre of front. The whole division is to be formed for action in two lines, but the first line is to have its own reserve: this latter, therefore, forming an intermediate body between the first and proper second line. In the normal disposition four of the twelve battalions of which the division consist are to be in the front fighting line, two are to form the above mentioned special reserve, and the remaining six the second line or general reserve. These alternative methods are given in the newly issued instructions for the distribution of the division in its formation. In the first place, each of its two brigades may form a line; the one the first or fighting line, with its special reserve, the other the second or reserve line; secondly, the two brigades may be drawn up side by side, each having a regiment in the first and a regiment in the second line; or, thirdly, the whole four regiments may be arrayed side by side, the battalions of each standing one behind the other.

Ahead of Accident.

THAT'S THE REASON WHY THE OLD LADY THANKED HEAVEN.

There was a nervous, fidgety sort of a lady on the Keokuk & Des Moines passenger train coming east, the other day, and as the cars pulled up at Mohroe she discovered a lot of coffins on the platform. She had been imagining all kinds of disasters on the way from Des Moines; had seen herself torn to pieces, the remnants collected and had suffered enough real agony to carry her through half a dozen railroad accidents. The sight of the coffins was the last straw that broke the camel-hair shawl she wore, and she resolved that if she did not say something she should die. Leaning over, she grasped a commercial traveler in the seat in front of her by the arm.

"Young man, what are all those coffins for?" she asked.

The commercial traveler was busy footing up orders, so he replied briefly:

"To bury people."

"Yes, but what do they have so many for?"

"Unhealthy country—lots of doctors," said the drummer.

"You can't deceive me, young man," said the female, in hysterical tones, "there has been an accident."

The drummer nodded.

"And lots of people have been killed?" Another nod.

"And plenty torn to pieces, maybe, beyond recognition?"

Nod number three.

"My good gracious! And some burned to death, and their remains gathered up in a scoop shovel?"

Another bob of the drummer's head. Before she asked the next question she prepared to faint.

"Oh, my, I feel—feel—so weak. When did it happen?"

"About ten years ago," said the drummer, as he started for the smoking-car.

The woman straightened back in her seat with a click like unto that made by the opening of a blade of a jack-knife which has a stiff spring, and made a wild claw for the conductor, who was passing. She caught him. She held him. She called his attention to those coffins, and asked what they were to be used for? There is only one answer to that question—the one the drummer gave—and the conductor responded in like manner.

"There has been an accident on this road!" said the excited inmate.

Not for years—not on this road," said the conductor.

"You are sure?"

"Dead sure."

"But one is liable to happen."

"Yes'm."

"Oh, thank Heaven! I am just ahead of the accident."

And then she fell on the conductor's neck and wept, and the blushing fellow thought he would rather stand seven or eight collisions and a blow-up than to pass through the smiles and snickers of the rest of the passengers.

Why He Wept.

A man about twenty-five years of age, and a stranger in the city, yesterday, sat in the doorway of a tenement house on Eleventh street and wept. A pedestrian astonished at the sight of a man in tears halted and inquired:

"What's the matter—why do you weep?"

"They beat me out of all my money down here apiece," was the reply. "A policeman told me not to go in there, but I would go."

"Would, eh?"

"Yes; but I ain't crying 'cause I lost my money for I can foot it home."

"What is it, then?"

"You've read how a fellow name Samson slayed the Philistines with the jaw-bone of an ass, haven't you?"

"Yes."

"Must have been a pretty big ass musn't it?"

"I guess it was."

"Well, what I'm crying about is to think that perhaps I ain't the biggest ass that ever lived! It hurts me to come almost to it and fail!"

The gentleman tried to convince him that he was the biggest ass known to the sacred or secular history of the world, but the young man leaned against the door and continued to weep.

Those Golden Leaves.

She was searching over the golden leaves which the frost had detached from the stiffening twigs. Her aburn hair took on the glint of gold as the bright sun streamed down over the chimney, and roof, and tree top, and the tender lines around her mouth deepened as she whispered:

"Oh golden leaves! your life is typical of—"

At that moment her mother came down to the gate, sleeves rolled up and her big red hands hiding the view of the back yard.

"Pawing over them leaves again, ar' ye?" she exclaimed, as she caught sight of the sentimental maiden. Well, now, you trot in here and wash out the rest of them colored clothes, or I'll paw you I will."

"Yes, mother dear, but these golden—"

"Trot, I say! Good bar soap is the goldenest thing in market, and a wash board costs more money than all the yaller leaves on the street."

And the gentle maiden trotted.

Patronizing.

A resident who reached home by a noon train, after an absence of two weeks, was met at the station by his eight-year-old son, who welcomed him loudly.

"And is every body well, Willie?" asked his father.

"The weldest kind," replied the boy.

"And nothing has happened?"

"Nothing at all. I've been good, Jennie's been good, and I never saw ma behave herself so well as she has this time."

An Irish clergyman once broke off the thread of his discourse and thus addressed the congregation: "My dear brethren, let me tell you that I am just half through my sermon; but as I perceive your impatience, I will say that the remaining half is not more than a quarter as long as that you have heard."

Providence Independent.

E. S. MOSER, Editor and Proprietor.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13, 1877.

Subscribers who fail to receive their papers regularly will please notify us of the same.

The Eagle iron works, at Reading, have gone into bankruptcy with very heavy liabilities.

The drowned of the Huron have nearly all been found and buried; most of them on the coast near where they drifted ashore.

The President on Tuesday subscribed \$100 to the fund of the Morton Monumental Association of Indianapolis.

The Black Hill miner discovers a moccasin print in the mud and exclaims, "I think there's an Indian summer around here."

Within two hours after the recent receipt of the news of the death of Captain Guthrie, of the Live-saving Service, at the scene of the Huron wreck, half a dozen applications for his position were received at the Treasury Department.

A man in Bangor, Maine, has received a conscience fee of one dollar and a half from a thief, for a pair of pullets stolen fifteen years ago. Thus conscience doth make cowards of the chicken thieves, while bank defaulters and treasury robbers don't repent worth a cent.

There is no nation in Europe with which the American people so heartily sympathize as with the French. It is not only that the majority of the people of that country are striving to establish a government upon a basis similar to our own, but because from the earliest day of our struggle for national existence, the French have been in accord with us—the friends of our friends and the foes of our foes. Whatever sympathy, therefore, MacMahon, in his attempt to subvert the Republican constitution of his country, may get in England, or Russia, or Austria, he will receive none in America.

General Miles, who has had several interviews with the American savage during the past few months, seems to think the United States Government has still a good deal of unfinished business on hand before the gentle hair-lifter ceases to be an element of discord on our frontiers and of annual appropriation by Congress. He says there are over three hundred thousand, and that they can fight—man for man with our white soldiers—that they are well armed, and at long-range shooting beat the average United States troops. General Miles is emphatic in his denunciations of the treatment inflicted upon Lo, the poor Indian, and says that the best and most intelligent among them could be made warm, steadfast and inexpensive allies by even ordinary fair treatment. But just this don't suit the interest of traders, agents and Commissioners.

A fitting finale to the mysterious murder trial at Norristown was the sentence, on Monday, by Judge Ross of the German, Heinrich Wahlen, to be hanged for the killing of Max Hugo Hoehne, near Fairmount Park, last year. This was the only great crime that marked the Centennial Exhibition, and, although clouded with mystery and happening where thousands of persons of all sorts and conditions, and from most of the nations of the earth, were passing to and fro every hour, the murderer was ferreted out, tried, convicted and sentenced to death for his terrible offense. The affair has become one of our CAUSES CELEBRES, and its management reflects credit upon every one concerned in its conduct, from the arrest of Wahlen to the announce-

For Independent.

Education of Woman.

Wherever you may go you will find that woman does not enjoy that liberty and freedom of the exercises of her powers which she desires, and clearly should have or which man possesses. Converse with her on the standing and condition of her sex and you will discover in her remarks a certain acknowledgment of oppression, restriction and limitation by, and to, the selfish and domineering spirit of man; though she may perhaps never have thought of it in this light.

Woman is by nature yielding and self-denying, though whether this was originally, or has become, her nature by a long continued process of self-denial, which was forced upon her I am not ready to decide for myself; but, taking into consideration man's disposition I am rather inclined to the latter belief. This is strengthened by observing, now and then, a woman who opposes and resents the subjection of herself to the will of man, who deeply deprecates the condition of subservience of her sex, who firmly believes that she was intended for a more glorious work than that of being man's vassal, and nurturer of his children, and who aspires to a loftier and nobler sphere of being. All this we must acknowledge as appearing rather natural than unnatural.

Why then do we find her in her present condition? It is true that it is to a great extent owing to the superior and overbearing strength of man, but she must also attribute a large share of the fault to her own sex. No matter how the fact is denied, and the idea of it ridiculed, yet it is a fact that nine-tenths of the female sex look upon marriage as the end of life. Little girls just entering their teens are stuffed chock full of this nonsense by mothers and friends, who from experience should have more sense. They are taught to think that life is a failure without a husband, that they must prepare themselves for marriage, that they should be satisfied with such an education as will fit them for the married state, and that anything more than this is a waste of time, money and brain. From such a training and bringing up what else could follow but her present condition. Why is not a young girl taught to prepare for life? Why are not those principles instilled into her mind which will lead her to improve and develop those powers and capabilities, which even now in their dwarfed state make her the noblest and most beautiful of all God's creatures, and which will lead her to live, unmarried, for the welfare of many, rather than be the servant or slave of a domineering and self-important man only for the sake of being married. Such old maids are a blessing to any community. If young ladies would prepare themselves on a broader basis for life they would, if married, be better and happier wives, would enjoy more deference to themselves, and secure better husbands. They should look upon marriage more as a possibility than as a necessity, more as an accident, which may or may not befall them and then they would be better prepared for either event. They would not need to fear that they would be doomed to old maidship unless they watch, strive and pray for marriage, for it is bound to come, almost as certainly as death, whether they are in constant expectation of it or not.

If a woman is thus in the broad sense prepared for life, to fight her own way if necessary, she will have a truer knowledge of her relations to life, a truer knowledge of what belongs to her, of who and what she is. She will have more self-reliance, self-respect, independence and dignity, and if such a woman does become a wife she will have a truer conception of married life, its duties and responsibilities, and would undoubtedly secure a husband worthy of herself. She would know and claim her rights; her husband would recognize and respect them, and they would live much more happily than if she allowed herself to become the mere servant, or at best, house-keeper to her husband. She must be his companion and be his, but how can she unless she is, and he acknowledges her to be, his equal.

Imagine the result if young men would be educated in the same way young ladies are, i. e., for marriage. How patly, how insignificant human achievements would be! For all those women who have gained distinction were not clogged in their education by such contemptible narrowness. They looked upon the sea of life in its grand, broad expanse, not on one narrow channel of it, and were thus prepared to sail over its raging billows. But not so her mistaught sister, who requires a great man-of-war to sail alongside her boat to render assistance in case it should not be able to outride the storm.

There is a beautiful simile in which the wife is compared to a vine clinging to a sturdy oak, her husband. It is beautiful, but unfortunately too sadly true, for it is a clinging arising from weakness, from helplessness, and should the oak fall before the storm the vine would also fall. I would rather know and see that vine have strength enough to stand without the oak.

I am not an admirer of strong-minded women, in the sense in which the term

is generally received, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mrs. Woodhull, or Mrs. Dr. Mary Walker. They would bring about a state of affairs infinitely worse than the present. But I would have a woman's mind strong in intelligence, self-reliance, self-respect, truth and right, and in dignity. But woman has enough dignity already. I grant that, and oftentimes too much, but on analyzing it you will find that it is a sham dignity, that it won't hold out. But comparatively few women have that true dignity which arises only from a pure, noble and beautiful mind.

Educate women broadly and deeply. Give her some self-dependence and self-reliance, and not till then will she cease to be oppressed and imposed upon by man. When the husband is a right-minded man it is all very nice to see in the wife a little of that beautiful mildness and willingness to yield to him, but when he is wrong let her also show her keener sense of right and have enough independence and firmness to make it effective. CROCRO.

Our Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 6, '77. Affairs at the Capital have been in an unsettled state for the past week or two, but now that the regular winter session of Congress is under way and the usually tedious fortnight of organizing has not got to be suffered, we are sort of settling down and getting used to things. The first of ten days ago set us all by the ears, then the Huron disaster put the city in a perfect whirl of excitement for several days; and the behavior of the Senate during the few last days and nights of the extra session was enough to unsettle a bigger world than this of the Capitol City. The seating of Butler and Kellogg took much time and caused much disputing among the Elders. Butler is a one-legged Confederate General, six feet tall and the possessor of strong, clear blue eyes. Kellogg looks little as he did when he entered the Senate ten years ago a black-haired and heavily bearded man. His four years of gubernatorial perplexities have perceptibly aged him, as his silvering hair and thin face testify. His sharp visage is now smoothly shaven.

An impromptu concert of a very high order occurred at the White House one evening last week. Miss Emma Thursby gave two of her musical performances in the city and, while here, visited the Executive Mansion with several members of her troupe. Mrs. Hayes had invited her and had invited several ladies and gentlemen to meet her. To guests were received in the Green Parlor but when Miss Thursby came to sing the room seemed too small so the company repaired to the great East Room where the finest of music was rendered, much to the delight of those assembled. Mrs. Hayes is a most delightful hostess. With no apparent exertion she sees to it that each one of her guests, no matter how many are present, is comfortable and at his ease. No one is neglected where she is. Callers are received at any time, as they would be by any lady, and their dress and treatment is the same. When a person arrives, to call on Mrs. Hayes, he or she is shown into a cloak room near the entrance where outer wrappings are laid aside, while cards are taken in to the hostess. This is all the ceremony that is observed and this is simply done in lieu of an introduction. On the evening I have mentioned some Southern people who were at the White House expressed themselves as delighted to observe one of their own custom of other days in this; the black muffs and other domestic comforts comfortably ensconced just outside the 'company room' to see, hear and enjoy. As I have said, Mrs. Hayes spares no pains to make even the most humble about her comfortable and happy.

A movement is on foot petitioning Clara Morris to come to Washington and give a performance for the benefit of the Custer Monument. The petition is signed by President Hayes, many Congressmen and citizens.

It is still sunny and bright, but the winter air is felt. The warm weather left with Thanksgiving Day. M. M. W.

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